

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 11797 121526Z

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 W
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R 120622Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7661
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11797

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM SAXBE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: AODE
SUBJ: MODE-REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF MISSION STAFFING

REF: (A) STATE 151270, (B) NEW DELHI 9957

1. IN MY TELEGRAM IN EARLY JULY, REFTEL B,
I SAID WE WERE REVEIWINING USIS STAFFING; THAT WE
WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU LATER IF WE CONSIDERED
REDUCTIONS WERE IN ORDER. WE DO.

2. I PROPOSE THAT ONE USIS POSITION BE REMOVED
FROM EACH OF THE THREE BRANCH POSTS IN BOMBAY,
CALCUTTA AND MADRAS. THIS WILL REDUCE USIS FROM
FOUR AMERICAN POSITIONS TO THREE IN EACH POST.
WHILE THE IMPACT OF ELIMINATION OF THESE POSITIONS
WILL VARY SOMEWHAT FROM POST TO POST, I BELIEVE
IT WILL NOT SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT THE ABILITY OF
OUR BRANCH USIS POSTS TO CARRY OUT IMPORTANT
PROGRAMS. CERTAINLY CALCUTTA SHOULD BE ABLE TO
CARRY ON AS BEFORE. BOMBAY MAY HAVE TO
REDUCE ITS PROGRAMS OF LOWER PRIORITY.

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3. FURTHER, I AGREE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF

THE INSPECTORS, WHO CONVEYED THEIR FINAL REPORT TO ME AUGUST 5, THAT AFTER THE NEW YEAR A CAREFUL REVIEW BE MADE OF THE USIS PROGRAM TO DETERMINE TO WHAT EXTENT IT SHOULD BE REDUCED TO MAKE IT CONSISTENT WITH OUR REDUCED ROLE IN INDIA. FURTHER STAFF REDUCTIONS MAY THEN BE IN ORDER.

4. I AM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN STAFF REDUCTIONS IN CONSULATES AS I CONSIDER THAT THE STAFFING OF OTHER AGENCIES THERE IS OUT OF LINE WITH THAT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. WE CANNOT EVEN CONSIDER WHETHER STATE STAFFING IS APPROPRIATE WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A PROPER PROPORTION AMONG AGENCIES. REDUCTION IN SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS IN THE CONSULATES SHOULD BRING DIVIDENDS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AREA BY REDUCING THE NEED FOR THE EXTENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OPERATIONS WE HAVE THERE. FOR EXAMPLE, WE WILL ALREADY DERIVE SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT BY THE ELIMINATION OF THE MARINES FROM CALCUTTA AS RECOMMENDED REFTEL AS WE WILL BE ABLE TO VACATE AN ENTIRE USG APARTMENT BUILDING THERE.

5. PAO GILDNER HAS CERTAIN QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ELIMINATION OF THESE POSITIONS WITH PARTICULAR REGARD TO WHETHER SUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE EFFECT ON PROGRAM AND TO TIMING. I HAVE ASKED HIM TO DISCUSS MY PROPOSAL WITH USIA AND THE DEPARTMENT WHEN HE IS THERE FOR CONSULTATIONS NEXT WEEK. THEREAFTER, I SHOULD LIKE A COORDINATED USIA/STATE RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL.
SAXBE

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